

1 THE HONORABLE ROBERT S. LASNIK
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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,) No. CR20-036 RSL
11 Plaintiff,)
12 v.) ORDER GRANTING UNOPPOSED
13 JUAN JOSE VEGA-FLORES) MOTION TO SCHEDULE GUILTY
14 Defendant.) PLEA HEARING VIA
) VIDEOCONFERENCE
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15 THE COURT has considered the unopposed motion of the parties to proceed forward
16 with a guilty plea hearing via videoconference and finds that:

17 (a) Under General Order 04-20, felony pleas and sentencing may proceed by
18 video or telephone if “the district judge in a particular case finds for specific reasons that the
19 plea or sentencing in that case cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests
20 of justice.” A plea hearing in this case cannot be delayed without serious harm to the interests
21 of justice; and

22 (b) Mr. Vega-Flores would like to take responsibility in this matter and resolve
23 it in a timely fashion; and

24 (c) Mr. Vega-Flores wishes to enter a plea as soon as possible in light of
25 anticipated delay associated with the COVID pandemic and a desire to alleviate presumptive
26 backlogged court calendars following the COVID recovery process. Mr. Vega-Flores

1 understands that the Court may not be as able to accommodate a timely resolution of his case
2 in the future as more cases are delayed; and

3 (d) a videoconference guilty plea hearing would avoid further delays in the ultimate
4 sentencing in this case, which would cause “serious harm to the interests of justice.” See
5 General Order No. 04-20 (3/30/20).

6 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this matter should be set for a guilty plea hearing
7 via videoconference at the earliest practicable date.

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9 DONE this 20th day of January, 2021.



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11 ROBERT S. LASNIK
12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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14 Presented by:
15 s/ Cooper Offenbecher
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